

NEWS RELEASE

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CLOSED FIRE SEASON EXPANDED TO COVER ALL OF UTAH

The Utah State Forester has expanded a closed fire season to encompass all of Utah, effective May 6, 2002 and extending through October 31, 2002. A previous closed fire season order issued last month covered Beaver, Garfield, Washington, Iron and Kane Counties.

A closed fire season requires that any open burning be done only by first securing a permit. Permits are available from county fire wardens, county fire chiefs, county sheriff's offices and through offices of the Division of Forestry, Fire and State Lands.

"State, federal and local fire agencies have noted a worsening fire situation throughout the state," explained Acting State Forester Karl Kappe. "A closed fire season is usually declared on June 1<sup>st</sup> but conditions dictate we take this action at this time."

For more information contact Dave Dalrymple, fire management coordinator for the Utah Division of Forestry, Fire and State Lands at (801) 538-5501.

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